CLAIMS:

1. A storage device for providing access to a recording medium (10), said storage device (30) comprising:

a) interface means (32) for exposing a predetermined portion of the maximum storage capacity of said recording medium (10), said predetermined portion being addressable for inputting or outputting data across said interface means (32); and

b) selecting means (25) for selecting said predetermined portion in response to a selection input.

2. A device according to claim 1, wherein said selecting means comprises switching means (25) for switching between at least two selection states for selecting at least one of a location and a size of said predetermined portion.

3. A device according to claim 2, wherein said switching means comprises at least a first switching means for switching between at least two different locations and a second switching means for switching between at least two different sizes.

4. A device according to claim 2 or 3, wherein said switching means comprises a software switch operated by a selection input signal receivable via an input terminal (32) of said storage device (30).

5. A device according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein said switching means comprises a hardware switch arranged on said storage device (30).

6. A device according to any one of claims 2 to 5, wherein said switching means provides a first selection type defining a first selection state in which said predetermined portion correspond to said maximum storage capacity, a second selection state in which said predetermined portion corresponds to the second half of said maximum storage capacity, a third selection state in which said predetermined portion corresponds to the second quarter of

said maximum storage capacity, and a fourth selection state in which said predetermined portion corresponds to the fourth quarter of said maximum storage capacity.

7. A device according to any one of claims 2 to 6, wherein said switching means provides a second selection type defining a first selection state in which said predetermined portion correspond to the first quarter of said maximum storage capacity, a second selection state in which said predetermined portion corresponds to the second quarter of said maximum storage capacity, a third selection state in which said predetermined portion corresponds to the third quarter of said maximum storage capacity, and a fourth selection state in which said predetermined portion corresponds to the fourth quarter of said maximum storage capacity.

8. A device according to any one of claims 2 to 7, wherein each selection state can be allocated to a different specific host device to which said storage device (30) is connectable.

9. A device according to any one of claims 2 to 8, wherein said switching means is programmable by a programming signal receivable via an input terminal (32) of said storage device (30).

10. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein a configuration of said selecting means (25) is stored on said recording medium (10).

11. A device according to claim 10, wherein said recording medium is an optical disc (10) and said configuration is stored in a drive navigation area (DN) of said optical disc (10).

12. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said storage device is a removable drive device (30) for an optical disc (10).

13. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said interface means is a standard interface (32) for storage devices.

14. A device according to claim 13, wherein said standard interface (32) is a PCMCIA, Compact Flash, Newcard, or MMCA interface.

15. A device according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein a file system area of said recording medium (10) is excluded from said exposed predetermined portion.

16. A method of reading from or writing to a recording medium (10), said method comprising the steps of:

a) providing an access interface function (20) for reading from or writing to said recording medium (10);

b) exposing via said access interface function (20) a predetermined portion of the maximum storage capacity of said recording medium (10); and

c) providing an input function (25) for selecting at said access interface function at least one of a size and a location of said predetermined portion.